

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. 4706

1. Name

Historic 1003-1027 North Chapel Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 1003-1027 North Chapel Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

3. Classification

Category

☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process
☐ being considered
☐ not applicable

Status

☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress

Accessible

☒ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☐ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military

☐ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check One

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check One

☒ original site
☐ moved:
date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This group of eight two-story, two-bay wide houses early Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and simple, scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built in 1872 Samuel French, a builder of working class houses in East Baltimore. The row of thirteen houses originally ran from 1003 – 1027 North Chapel Street, but at the time of this survey only 1003 – 1015 and 1027 remained. Some of the houses retain their original brick facades, which have been painted; others have been covered with formstone.

The houses are two stories in height, 13' wide and occupy lots 55' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are constructed in common bond and were originally painted. Each house has a single hooded chimney located at the rear corner of the house. French built the group extending from 1007-1027 first, in 1871. The shed roofs are capped by a simple wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by block modillions set above a plain frieze area. The window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels and plain tympanums. In 1872 French built the pair of houses at 1003-1005 and put on a much more elaborate wooden cornice. Here the crown molding is supported by three long scroll-sawn brackets (for the pair), connected by a lower molding strip, as well as two smaller scroll-sawn modillions per house. The frieze panel is decorated with scrolling jig-sawn designs, which also provide ventilation for the attic. For the pair, door and window openings have splayed brick lintels and wood sills. One original 2/2 sash survives at 1005, but the remaining windows are filled with replacement 1/1 or 6/6 sash. The sills are wood. The doorways originally had a single-light transom, but many are boarded over or filled in. No original doors survive. The houses have very low basements, lit by a small sash. Each house is reached by one or two concrete steps.

8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

Specific dates 1871-1872

Builder/Architect Samuel W. French

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This simple form of small street house is typical of those built in the 1870s, often in neighborhoods of predominantly three story houses, like Union Square or the nearby Madison Square. This group of houses is significant as representing a very plain type of small street house that was constructed to serve as rental housing for the working class residents of the area, most of whom were German at the time of construction.

The houses were built by Samuel French, a local builder, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's new neighborhoods of the 1870s and 1880s. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north-east of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide three-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$2,000 - \$3,000; small street houses for \$ 700 - \$900.

In this particular case French sold the houses to a variety of investors interested in their rental income. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

Samuel French also built the seven three story houses on the west side of Washington Street, just to the east of this row and a row of similar two-story houses on the west side of Chapel St.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date June 2000

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

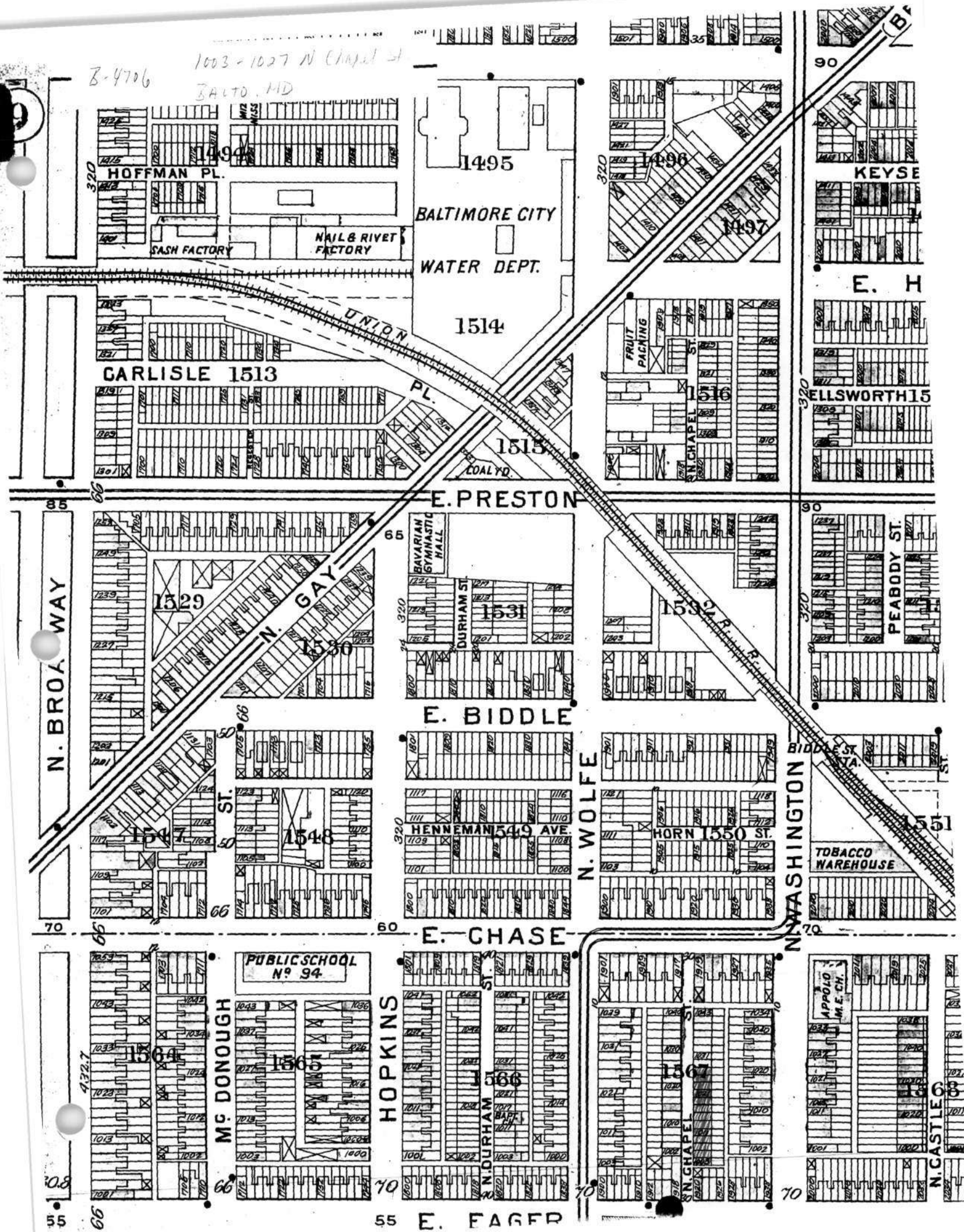
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:
DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

B-4706

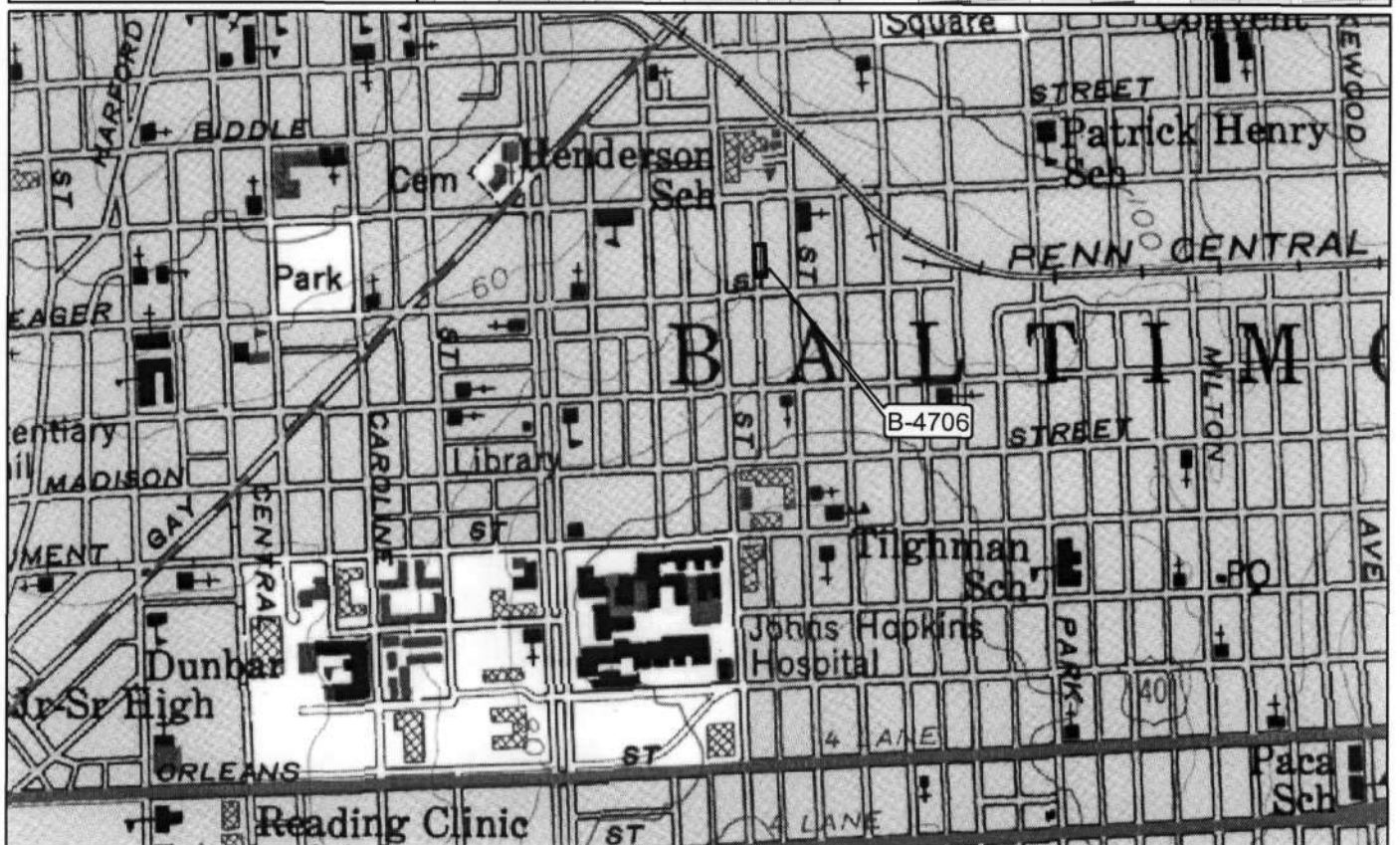
1003-1027 N Chapel St

BALTO. MD



B-4706
1003-1027 N. Chapel Street
Block 1567, Lots 074-086
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

Demolished





1003-1015 Chapel
W-9

180

0010190 0211 N N W 5

B-4706

1003-1015; 1027 N. Chapel St

BALE. 110

W. Nield

7/96

MD SHPO

1/1